

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

RECENT ELECTIONS IN EAST TIMOR

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the people of East Timor on the success of their recent Constituent Assembly elections.

On August 30, 2001, the people of East Timor voted to elect a new Constituent Assembly. That Assembly will begin meeting almost immediately to adopt a new constitution and to establish the framework for future elections and a transition to full independence next year. The vote was conducted on the second anniversary of the violent 1999 independence referendum. In that earlier referendum, nearly 98 percent of eligible voters risked their lives to vote for independence from Indonesia. Last week, the people of East Timor demonstrated their continuing commitment to democracy by turning out again in force to elect the women and men who will lead them now to full democracy and independence. Final voter turnout in this recent election was reported at more than 91 percent, in a territory-wide poll that was both peaceful and orderly.

After 25 years of occupation by Indonesia, and a much longer period of colonization by Portugal, many ordinary men and women walked for hours and lined up before dawn to vote for the first time for their own political leaders. Clearly, many difficult decisions and fractious debates now lie ahead for the 24 women and 64 men who have been entrusted by their election to the Constituent Assembly to establish a sound legal framework for independent governance. It is my fervent hope that the same spirit of civic participation and tolerance that guided this most recent election will continue to guide the elected representatives of the Constituent Assembly as they establish a new democratic system to promote the cause of peace, independence, and prosperity in East Timor.

The United Nations must also be credited for organizing a successful election and establishing a firm foundation for future independent governance. As U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has noted, it is in many respects the conviction with which the people of East Timor have embraced democracy that continues to strengthen the commitment of the world community to their cause. I commend the United Nations Administration in East Timor, UNTEAT, for their dedication in implementing this important mission and for their success in organizing this recent election.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, September 7, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,772,587,811,775.31, five trillion, seven hundred seventy-two billion, five hundred eighty-seven million, eight hundred eleven thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and thirty-one cents.

One year ago, September 7, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,680,707,239,455.93, five trillion, six hundred eighty billion, seven hundred seven million, two hundred thirty-nine thousand, four hundred fifty-five dollars and ninety-three cents.

Twenty-five years ago, September 7, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$625,934,000,000, six hundred twenty-five billion, nine hundred thirty-four million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,146,653,811,775.31, five trillion, one hundred forty-six billion, six hundred fifty-three million, eight hundred eleven thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and thirty-one cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS BIRTHDAY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, the Congress of the United States recognizes with extreme pleasure the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps on its thirty-ninth anniversary of their Congressional Charter of September 10, 1962.

A non-profit training and education organization for young men and women, the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps has consistently provided, in conjunction with the Navy and Coast Guard, an outstanding opportunity for our country's youth to sample military life and experience the challenges and rewards of the maritime services. Over 8600 Cadets ages 11 to 17, led by 2,000 adult volunteers, across the United States and overseas participate with active forces in a wide variety of maritime training activities.

The Sea Cadet program is applauded in developing not only interest and skill in seamanship and aviation, but also instilling in America's young people a sense of patriotism, personal courage, self-reliance and those qualities which mold strong moral character and self-discipline, all in an anti-drug, anti-gang environment. Many of our former and current military leaders established their roots and love the Naval services as a Sea Cadet.

On behalf of my colleagues in the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, I offer our heartfelt appreciation and respect to all the members of "our" U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

To Volunteers and Cadets: "Bravo Zulu"—Well Done!•

IN RECOGNITION OF HAIFA FAKHOURI

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my Senate colleagues to join with me in honoring dedicated activist and respected community leader Dr. Haifa Fakhouri. Dr. Fakhouri will be named a Lady of Charity by the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (PIME Missionaries) at the 43rd Knights of Charity Award Dinner in Dearborn, Michigan on October 11, 2001.

The Knights of Charity Award is presented each year to men and women who clearly exemplify "Unity in Family Life with Person-to-Person Charity." This award is given to those whose words and actions promote the ideals of charity, friendship, love and interfaith and intercultural collaboration.

Dr. Fakhouri clearly exemplifies these ideals. Since coming to America from Jordan in 1968, she has become one of the most respected leaders of the Arab-American community. Her most well known and far reaching achievement was helping to found, and serve as President and CEO of the Arab-American and Chaldean Council (ACC), the largest community based human services agency in the nation, serving the Arabic and Chaldean speaking population of southeast Michigan. Founded in Detroit in 1979, the ACC has quickly grown to offer 36 outreach centers and over 50 specialized programs to the Arab/Chaldean community in Detroit and the surrounding area.

Under Dr. Fakhouri's leadership, the ACC has adopted goals and ideals that closely match those of the Knights of Charity Award. The ACC is dedicated to building community cooperation and coordination, increasing cross cultural understanding and raising the level of the community's general well-being. Because Dr. Fakhouri has been so successful in guiding the ACC towards achieving these goals, she has received recognition from numerous state and national organizations. For example, she has served as Special Advisor to the United Nations on the role and status of women and population policies in the Middle East Region, and she has received the 1999 Governor's Community Leadership Award, the 1999 Michigander of the Year Award and many others.

Dr. Fakhouri's leadership, vision and compassion have made her one of the nation's greatest community activists. Her dedication to serving others have made her an invaluable part of the southeast Michigan community. I know that my Senate colleagues will join me in congratulating her on being named a Lady of Charity.•

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORY MUSEUM FOR SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTRY

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, this month the History Museum for Springfield-Greene County will celebrate its 25th